

Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, November 24, 2003 at 1:00 PM
(with corrections approved 12-08-2003 in bold and parenthesis)

- Item No. 1 Call to order by Judge Louis H. Bruni
Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:
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| Louis H. Bruni | County Judge |
| Jerry Vasquez | Commissioner, Pct. 1 |
| Judith Gutierrez | Commissioner, Pct. 2 |
| Felix Velasquez | Commissioner, Pct. 3 |
- Not present but excused:
David Cortez Commissioner, Pct. 4
- Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 12 of November 2003. Present also were Ms. Nora Elia Prado, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.
- Item No. 2 Roll Call – Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk
- Judge Bruni requested a moment of silence in memory of Cmr. Cortez's sister who passed away yesterday.
- Item No. 3 Pledge of Allegiance – Led by all
- Item No. 4 Approval of minutes
- Cmr. Velasquez stated that on page 10, Item No. 34, the sentence should read "Cmr. Velasquez stated that a back up for all items **should be** included in the agenda to avoid unnecessary questions." Judge Bruni, Cmr. Vasquez and Cmr. Gutierrez had no other additions, deletions or corrections.
- Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the minutes with the correction stated above. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.
- Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.
- Item No. 6 Communications

Judge Bruni read a letter sent to him by President George W. Bush thanking him for his support. Cmr. Vasquez and Cmr. Gutierrez had no communications. Cmr. Velasquez thanked everyone from H-E-B for their efforts with the Feast of Sharing and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving

Item No. 7 Public Comment

Mr. Robert Summers, WBCA, was present to address the Court regarding Item No. 8. He presented the Court with a framed artwork for the celebration. He also stated that they print over 30,000 "By George" magazines which are available at local hotels and area travel centers to promote tourism in Laredo. Judge Bruni inquired as to when the traditional picture of the Webb County Judge, WBCA President and Laredo Mayor would take place since it has been cancelled several times. Mr. Summers stated that it would be done as soon as possible. He also stated that they would be traveling to Austin to personally invite the Governor and Lieutenant Governor to the festivities. Cmr. Velasquez requested that the court schedule a photo session that can be used for upcoming events. Judge Bruni instructed Mr. Raul Casso, County Judge's Chief of Staff, to schedule the photo session.

Item No. 8 Presentation by Washington's Birthday Celebration Association.

Taken during Public Comments

Item No. 7 Public Comment

Mr. Thomas MacDonald, Bearing Point, was present to address the Court regarding Item No. 10.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to move up Item No. 10. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Item No. 10 Presentation by Bearing Point on the State of Texas, Texas Online Project for e-filing.

Mr. MacDonald stated that he had spoken with the clerk regarding the number of documents filed and stated that the \$2.00 technology fee would be used to offset the cost of implementing an e-filing system. He stated that his company's fees are made up of convenience fees charged to the client for using the service. Mr. Raul Casso, County Judge's Chief of Staff, stated that this was a pilot program to bring the County into the 21st Century. He stated that the fee would be used to cover the costs associated with implementing the program.

Item No. 7 Public Comments

Ms. Agustina Villarreal was present to address the Court on Item No. 29.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to move up Item No. 29. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Item No. 29 Discussion and possible action to issue "Certifications Regarding Compliance with Plat Requirements and the Connection of Utilities" to authorize utility connections to the following properties:

Connection(s) qualifying under Section 232.028 (a) and (b):

1. Lot 4 & 5, Block 33, (electricity – one dwelling only)

Connection(s) qualifying under Section 232.029 (i):

1. Lot 8, 9, &10, Block 32, Mirando Subdivision, (electricity - one dwelling only)

Ms. Villarreal expressed concern about having to come before the Court for approval before being able to have electricity hooked up even after all the proper documentation has been filed. She stated that she would like to have the steps needed to be authorized to connect their utilities be posted and available to the public. She also expressed concerns regarding the garbage pick up at the colonias. Judge Bruni stated that an item regarding the garbage pick up would be on the next agenda. She also stated that she has called Cmr. Gutierrez's office several times and only received a call back from her office after she met with Judge Bruni. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she had been attending meetings and stated that there is a procedure in place to address problems brought to her office. She stated that the information she is requesting has been posted in several areas in the Quad Cities (Miranda, Bruni, Oilton and Aguilares).

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to move up Item No. 30. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Item No. 30 Discussion and possible action to grant preliminary and/or final plat approval of the Las Minas Industrial Park, Phase I.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Item No. 9 Discussion and possible action to adopt the procedure for approval of Webb County building and park dedication plaques and any matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Item No. 5 Approval of bills, payroll and monthly reports

Ms. Delia Perales, County Treasurer, presented her monthly report. Cmr. Velasquez inquired as to whether she had met with Mr. Casso and Mr. Villarreal as instructed at a prior meeting and if not to meet with them regarding the debt service fund.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to accept report as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Item No. 11 Discussion and possible action to approve Capital Outlay list for Certificates of Obligation Series 2003.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to table item. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Vasquez stated that he had concerns regarding the need for the vehicles being requested by Constable Tino Juarez. He also requested that shutter windows for the Rio Bravo Community Center (\$4,800) be included in the list. Judge Bruni stated that Constable Juarez has 5 new vehicles (2000 to 2003) in excellent condition.

Cmr. Vasquez motioned to remove Constable Juarez's request for vehicles (\$45,000) from the Capital Outlay list. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Gutierrez expressed concern about a vehicle request to replace a 1990 vehicle from the Radio Communications Department and requested that the replacement of the vehicle be made. Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Commissioners Court Executive Administrator, stated that Mr. Cavazos was issued a new vehicle two (2) years ago and feels that the need for vehicle is not there. Mr. Mario Cavazos, Radio Communications Department, stated reason for this request was due to the amount of travel done in order to service all areas of Webb County and they are already experiencing problems with the engine of the 1990 vehicle. Cmr. Velasquez stated that he felt that the Capital Outlay list should be approved along with the budget and hopes that it would be done next year as well as not leaving **(a reserve)** for any

unexpected situations in the future. He also had concerns regarding the following requests:

- Building Maintenance – Request for 3 vehicles but felt that need would only be for 2 vehicles. Mr. Raul Elizondo, Maintenance Department, stated that the three (3) vehicles are necessary since several of the current vehicles are 16, 17 and 18 years old and are a safety hazard due to their condition. He stated that he understood the County's financial restraints.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve only 2 vehicles for the Building Maintenance department. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Management Information Systems – Request for vehicle but wants to know if vehicle is necessary. Mr. Memo Garcia, M.I.S., stated that vehicle is for the Records Management Department which would use the vehicle for pick up and delivery of records housed at the Records Management warehouse. He stated that the current vehicle (pick-up) is breaking down.
- Juvenile Probation – Request for vehicle. Mr. Villarreal advised Court that vehicle would be used for the transportation of juvenile offenders.
- Planning Department – Request for vehicle. Cmr. Velasquez stated that a vehicle had already been approved some time back. Mr. Villarreal stated that vehicle would be transferred from another department but was never done.
- Computers – Cmr. Velasquez requested possible consideration of leasing program for computers. Mr. Casso advised Court that bond monies could not be used for leasing of equipment. Mr. Villarreal stated that criteria must be met before computer is purchased and no more than \$98,000 will be spent so there may be a cushion in monies being left over.

Cmr. Vasquez motioned to approve only one (1) computer for Constable Tino Juarez's office. Motion died for lack of a second.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve list with amendments made. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Cmr. Vasquez requested that the court consider allocating \$5,000 for the purchase of shutter windows for the Rio Bravo Community Center.

Cmr. Velasquez amended motioned to include \$5,000 for shutter windows for Rio Bravo Community Center. Cmr. Gutierrez amended second.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 12 Discussion and possible action to approve an additional four (4) hours for the Thanksgiving Holiday. (Wednesday afternoon, November 26, 2003)

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 13 Discussion and possible action to enter into a contract with Earthwise Technologies, Inc., for the implementation and technical evaluation of precipitation augmentation services (Provaqua Project) for a twenty-four month period (including construction) at a cost of ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. [Fund 663-019-8601]

Judge Bruni stated that this was proven, cutting-edge technology and Webb County would be the first in the U.S. to implement this bi-national project. He stated that the account number should be #663-0119-8601.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion with discussion.

Cmr. Velasquez stated that he was concerned about costs and whether this had been used in other U.S. counties or cities. Judge Bruni stated that the county would be the first to implement this project in the U.S. and those monies would be used to construct three (3) ionization towers and one (1) additional tower nearby Corpus Christi to "guide" the other towers. **(He also stated that this was proven technology.)** He stated that the monies would only be used for construction in Webb County. He stated that though land has not been acquired, imminent domain may apply but feels that landowners would cooperate on this project. Mr. Raul Casso stated that construction would take approximately six (6) months with results seen within one (1) year. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that there are provisions in the contract that would allow for additional reports to be requested and recommended that a report be submitted on work done to date when payment is made.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 14 Discussion and possible action to relocate Webb County employees from the Webb County Courthouse Annex to other available County facilities, and any other matters incident thereto. [Co-sponsored by Commissioner David R. Cortez]

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Commissioners Court Executive Administrator, advised Court that Courthouse Annex is in bad shape and that the roof could collapse with any

heavy rain. He stated that there are currently 5 Adult Probation Officers and 2 Economic Development employees housed at the Annex.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 15 Discussion and possible action to create and fill temporary grant position – Rio Bravo Housing Intake Clerk at \$8.25 per hour, based on experience, at no cost to the General Fund.

Cmr. Vasquez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 16 Discussion and possible action to determine space availability and use at the Administration Building, Justice Center, Courthouse Annex, and the Tex-Mex building.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that action would be needed on this item so that employees at the annex could be relocated. Cmr. Vasquez stated that the decision as to where to move the employees was essential and stated that he had concerns about Cmr. Cortez's need for office space. He stated that Cmr. Cortez currently occupies an office, reception area and conference room that used to be utilized by himself and the Economic Development as well. He also stated that Cmr. Cortez's administrative assistant was not in the reception area but in an area used by the Economic Development Office. Cmr. Velasquez concurred with Cmr. Vasquez's comments and felt that Cmr. Cortez's administrative assistant needed to vacate the area and have the area be used by the Economic Development. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the relocation could also be discussed under Item No. 14. Cmr. Vasquez questioned the legal authority Cmr. Cortez used when he took over the conference room and moved his administrative assistant to Economic Development space. Mr. Ramirez stated that this was done without Commissioners Court approval and recommended that an item clarifying the Court's position on office space be placed on the next agenda

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to bring back Item No. 14. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 14 Discussion and possible action to relocate Webb County employees from the Webb County Courthouse Annex to other available County

facilities, and any other matters incident thereto. [Co-sponsored by Commissioner David R. Cortez]

Cmr. Velasquez stated that two (2) Economic Development employees are housed at the Annex and should occupy space currently being used by Cmr. Cortez's administrative assistant.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to that effect. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Cmr. Velasquez incorporated accessibility to the conference room also be given to Cmr. Vasquez as well as the Economic Development Office to his motion.

Motion carried 3-0 with Judge Bruni abstaining and Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to defer Item No. 16. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to move up Item No. 25. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Vasquez stepped out.

Item No. 25 Discussion and possible action to enter into a field agreement with the Texas Wildlife Damage Management Program for a two year period at a cost of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS per year for protection of crops, livestock, wildlife through the control of predatory and problem wildlife. [Account # 01-4300-7412]

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

A representative (did not identify self) advised Court that fee of \$1,800 was per month, not per year.

Motion carried 3-0 with Cmr. Vasquez not present for voting and Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to move up Item No. 39. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 39 Discussion and possible action regarding the adoption of policies and procedures for the dispersal of funds through the Webb County Veterans Assistance Program to qualified veteran applicants.

Mr. Jesus Cantu, Veterans Service Officer, advised Court that he had met with all recognized Veterans associations and together have come up with a list of required documentation needed to apply for assistance. Cmr. Velasquez stated for the record that the Court had requested that Mr. Cantu implement a procedure for accountability. He stated that he would like for the Laredo Veterans Coalition to screen veterans and submit an invoice to the County for all assistance provided, which the County would then reimburse. Mr. Cantu stated that once approval for assistance is made, a pledge is made to the vendor on behalf of the applicant and payment is then requested from the Auditor's and Treasurer's department via a General Request for Payment. Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Commissioners Court Executive Administrator, proposed that the Court make an agreement with the Laredo Veterans Coalition so that they can screen and assist veterans and be reimbursed by the County for assistance rendered.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to adopt new procedure. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 17 Discussion and possible action to enter into a consulting agreement with Griffin Communication Strategies and Webb County at a rate of \$150.00 an hour for consulting services on the Webb County International Bridge Number 1 project for a period of one year. [Account # 625-8104-6022 Professional Services]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 18 Discussion and possible action to approve modification of slot # 2014 (Weatherization Clerk) from Full-time temporary, to Full-time with benefits effective November 24, 2003. (Funding comes from LIHEAP and DOE Grants. No impact to the General Fund)

- Item No. 19 Discussion and possible action to approve Budget Revisions to the State of Texas Comprehensive Energy Grant, Comprehensive Energy Assistance Grant (CEAP), contract number 587047 for FY 2003, by line item transfer from the "Energy Crisis Fund" (\$13,511.00) and from the "Co-payment services fund" (\$10,500.00) to the "Elderly and Disabled Assistance Fund" (\$9,783.00) and the "Heating and cooling systems

fund" (\$14,228.00) and revising the CEAP General Order to reflect the sources of funding for Slot 1810 Energy Assessor/Inspector.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 18 and No. 19 as submitted. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 20 Discussion and possible action to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Laredo to accept funding in the amount of \$15,000 for the Webb County Community Action Agency's Elderly Nutrition Program for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 (October 1, 2003 – September 30, 2004) to provide meals to approximately 160 eligible individuals within the City of Laredo and authorizing the County Judge to execute any and all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]
- Item No. 21 Discussion and possible action to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Laredo to accept funding in the amount of \$22,500 for the Webb County Community Action Agency's Homeless Prevention Program for year 2003-2004, and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]
- Item No. 22 Discussion and possible action to accept from the State of Texas, Texas Department of Human Services, under contract number 11K1965 (Vendor Number 158100), FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$579,562.00). The moneys will be used by Webb County, through the Webb County Community Action Agency, to provide home-delivered meal services as part of the county's "Meals on Wheels" program. [Requested by Community Action Agency]
- Item No. 23 Discussion and possible action to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Laredo to accept funding in the amount of \$14,250 for the Webb County Community Action Agency's "Meals on Wheels" Program for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 (October 1, 2003-September 30, 2004) to provide meals to approximately 209 eligible individuals within the City of Laredo and Authorizing the County Judge to execute any and all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]
- Item No. 24 Discussion and possible action to approve a three year (November 24, 2003 through November 23, 2006) Equipment Lease Agreement with IOS Capital (IKON Office Solutions) for a 45 CPM Ricoh 2045 Digital

copier for the Extension Service Office at a monthly cost of FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS AND NINETY-SEVEN CENTS (\$521.97) within an allowance of 0.0062 per page for overages, and authorizing the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents. The total cost over the lease term is EIGHTEEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY DOLLARS AND NINETY-TWO CENTS (\$18,790.92). [(Account # 001-5001-6014 Equipment Rental) Requested by Extension Office]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 20, No. 21, No. 22, No. 23 and No. 24 as submitted. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 26 Discussion and possible action to grant the County Auditor authority to expend funds from the DEA Narcotic Task Force and City of Laredo Financial Task Force DEA, effective November 1, 2003 pending the receipt of all required grant documents.

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, advised Court that no action was needed on this item due all required grant documentation had been received.

Cmr. Vasquez motioned to table item. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 27 Discussion and possible action to approve a contract extension with Turner Collie & Braden Inc., Project Engineer for the Webb County Highway 59 Facility Plan Project extending the contract to July 1, 2004, with no cost increase to the contract.

- Item No. 28 Discussion and possible action to approve payment to the following persons that worked with Turner, Collie, and Braden Inc., Engineers for Webb County Hwy. 59 Facility Plan Project in verifying survey forms for Hwy 59 Colonia residents that are affected by this project. [Account # 505-0102-6022 Professional Services]

a) Mr. Pablo Lemos, Jr.	\$104.00
b) Ms. Edith Hinojosa	896.00
c) Ms. Santos Martinez	444.00
d) Ms. Ana Maria Guerra	748.00
e) Ms. Rosario Gutiérrez	32.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 27 and No. 28 as submitted. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 31 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for upgrade of disk storage for the Management Information Systems Department. [Account # 001-0500-8801 Capital Outlay]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 32 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to award/reject bid No. 2003-45 "Justice of the Peace Courthouse Precinct 2, Place 1 & 2". [Account # 679-8105-8103 Building Improvements Certificates of Obligation Series 2001 and Account # 689-1046-8601 Construction in Progress Certificates of Obligation Series 2002]

Cmr. Vasquez advised Court that all bids received were for amounts over the budgeted amount but that value engineering would be done to lower cost and any amount over that budgeted would come from his funds.

Cmr. Vasquez motioned to that effect. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Mr. Villarreal advised Court that he would need their authorization to negotiate with the lowest bidder. Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that the lowest bidder was FMG Contractors, a reputable and bonded company. He stated that the reason their bid was remarkably lower was because they did a lot of their own work without subcontracting.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 33 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase five (5) mobile radios from the Houston Galveston Area Council state contract in the amount of \$8,565.10 for the Road and Bridge Department. [Account # 010-7002-6403 Repairs and Maintenance - Vehicles]

- Item No. 34 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to award bid No. 2004-31 "Digital Copiers 45 copies per minute and 55

copies per minute for the Sheriff's Department, Commissioners, Road and Bridge and County Clerk's Office.

- Item No. 35 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to dispose of surplus or salvage property pursuant to Section 263.151, Texas Government Code, Chapter D, Disposition of Salvage and Surplus.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 33, No. 34 and No. 35 as submitted. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that the recommended low bidder for Item No. 34 was OCS out of six bids received.

- Item No. 36 Discussion and possible action to approve the School Leaders Errors & Omissions Liability Insurance Package, including or excluding terrorism coverage, from McGriff, Siebel's & Williams of Texas, Inc. through National Union Fire Insurance company to be effective October 1, 2003, and authorization for the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Account # 001-0105-6032 Property Casualty Liability]

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 37 Discussion and possible action regarding the property damage claim of the District Attorney's Office for a motor vehicle accident which occurred on or about June 7, 2003. [Account # 001-0105-9201 Claims Paid - Property]

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

- Item No. 38 Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of computer technology equipment and accessories for use at the Webb County Jail, Quad-City Substation, HWY 359 Substation and Sheriff's Office. [Local Law Enforcement Block Grant]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that for Item No. 36, the account number is the general fund but feels that the monies should come from the JJAEP's own funds. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, requested clarification as to whether Item No. 36 was approved including or excluding terrorism coverage.

Cmr. Velasquez motioned to approve Item No. 36 out of JJAEP funds excluding terrorism coverage. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to move into Executive Session. Cmr. Vasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (3:14 pm to 3:38 pm)

Judge Bruni reconvened meeting and stated that no action was taken while in Executive Session.

Item No. 40 Discussion and possible action regarding the claim of Lydia C. Valdez resulting from an incident on or about July 30, 2003 (Executive Session is requested pursuant to Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code-Consultation with Attorney). Requested by Risk Management [Account # 001-0105-9201 Claims Paid]

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, recommended authorization to settle along the parameters discussed in Executive Session.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to that effect. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.

Cmr. Gutierrez wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving on behalf of the Court.

Item No. 41 Adjournment

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to adjourn. Cmr. Velasquez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez not present.